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Security Council

Fifty-third Year

Provisional

3856th Meeting

Tuesday, 24 February 1998, 4.30 p.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Dangue Réwaka	(Gabon)
Members:	Bahrain	Mr. Buallay
	Brazil	Mr. Cordeiro
	China	Mr. Cui Tiankai
	Costa Rica	Mr. Berrocal Soto
	France	Mr. Teixeira
	Gambia	Mr. Sallah
	Japan	Mr. Konishi
	Kenya	Mr. Mahugu
	Portugal	Mr. Soares
	Russian Federation	Mr. Sergeev
	Slovenia	Mr. Türk
	Sweden	Mr. Lídén
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Manley
	United States of America	Ms. Soderberg

Agenda

The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border

Progress report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan (S/1998/113)

98-85075 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 4.30 p.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border

Progress report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan (S/1998/113)

The President (*interpretation from French*): I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of Tajikistan, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Alimov (Tajikistan) took a seat at the Council table.

The President (*interpretation from French*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

Members of the Council have before them the progress report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan, document S/1998/113.

Following consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has considered the progress report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan of 10 February 1998 (S/1998/113), submitted pursuant to paragraph 12 of its resolution 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997.

"The Security Council regrets that during the last three months work on the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan (S/1997/510) and the relevant activities of the Commission on National Reconciliation (CNR) have proceeded very slowly. It welcomes recent efforts made by the parties in order to fulfil their obligations. The Council calls upon them to intensify their efforts to implement fully the General Agreement, including the Protocol on military issues (S/1997/209, annex II). It also encourages the CNR to continue its efforts aimed at the institution of a broad dialogue among the various political forces as foreseen in the General Agreement.

"The Security Council commends the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) for their work and encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement. It welcomes the results of the international donor conference in support of peace and reconciliation in Tajikistan convened by the Secretary-General in Vienna on 24 and 25 November 1997, and looks forward to the contribution of those results to consolidating the peace process in Tajikistan.

"The Security Council reiterates its concern that the security situation in some parts of Tajikistan remains precarious. It reminds both parties that the international community is ready to continue assisting in the implementation of the General Agreement as well as in humanitarian and rehabilitation programmes, but that its ability to do so and also the ability of UNMOT to carry out its tasks more effectively are linked to improvements in security conditions.

"The Security Council firmly condemns the hostage-taking of relief workers that took place in November 1997 and urges the parties to cooperate further in ensuring the security and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the Collective Peacekeeping Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States (the CIS Peacekeeping Forces) and other international personnel, and to take practical steps in this respect, such as those mentioned in paragraph 7 of the report of the Secretary-General.

"The Security Council welcomes the presidential decree establishing a joint security unit with the task of providing security, including armed escorts, for UNMOT personnel and calls upon the parties to make the unit operational as soon as

possible. It also welcomes the readiness of the CIS Peacekeeping Forces to arrange for the guarding of United Nations premises in Dushanbe, as mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General, and encourages UNMOT and the CIS Peacekeeping Forces to make the relevant detailed arrangements.

"The Security Council encourages the Secretary-General to continue the expansion of UNMOT to the strength authorized by its resolution 1138 (1997) as soon as the Secretary-General deems conditions appropriate."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/1998/4.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on the agenda.

The meeting rose at 4.40 p.m.